

I should like to go on record as AGAINST any rule allowing upgrading of an Amateur Radio Operator's License based only on the length of time the present license has been held. Merely holding a license does NOT insure the individual has been active on the air, or that the individual's technical knowledge and ability has grown over the years. A person can renew an Amateur license without showing any operating time or any "continuing education" in the field. This is certainly not fair to those of us who have studied and upgraded our knowledge to progress from one license to the next. In addition, and of greater importance, it does not insure a pool of trained, competent people working to improve the "state of the art".

I held a Novice license in the 1960's (WN8TJK), then after 30 years absence obtained my Tech license, got on-air experience with that, brushed up on the code, studied the manuals, and upgraded to General. The study and on-air practice are critical to advancement.

Thank you for your attention to my comments.